

respective beneficiary States, and

[Translation]

- (v) accelerate the evolutionary process of formation of the regional grids and ultimately the national power grid.

(c) The Central Electricity Authority is a statutory organisation constituted under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948. The main functions of the Authority are;

(i) to formulate short-term and perspective plans for Power-Development.

(ii) to collect data concerning generation, distribution and utilisations of power, study of cost efficiency losses, benefits, publication of reports and investigations;

(iii) to advise the State Governments, Electricity Boards, generation companies, or any other agency engaged in the generation or supply of electricity on such matters as would improve the operation and maintenance of their system in an efficient and coordinated manner;

(iv) to promote and assist in the timely completion of projects sanctioned in the power sector and to constantly monitor their implementation;

(v) to make arrangements for advancing the skills of persons in the generation and distributions of electricity;

(vi) to promote research in matters affecting the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity;

(vii) to advise the Central Government or any matter on which its advice is sought or to make recommendations which would help in improving the generation, distribution and utilisations of electricity.

Agreement with Nepal on Irrigation projects

7107. SHRI SUKDEEPASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme has been approved recently for implementing in Koshinadi, Birpur and Bhimpur adjoining areas with Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details of the irrigation projects on which an agreement has been signed with Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). No agreement has been recently reached with Nepal for implementing irrigation projects in Birpur and Bhimnagar areas.

[English]

Bauxite in Visakhapatnam Area, Andhra Pradesh

7108. SHRIDATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bauxite mineral ore of very superior quality is found in abundance in the Visakhapatnam and Vizianagar district and other areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the experts of the Metallurgical Engineering Consultants India Ltd. (MECON) has suggested for locating the alumina plant at Krishnadevi Peta; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government in this regard?